Ezhuva, the second a Brahmin and the third a Mohamedan and the fourth was given to another community, the Nayar community.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to say what they mean by backward?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—When was he appointed?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—Recently, not more than a few months ago.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—What is meant by backward?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—A list of these communities is published in the Gazette from time to time.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Is this Sankara Menon a Cochinite?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—Yes.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—May I know whether the Government have called for applications for the post?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—Yes. It was advertised in the Gazette.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Was there an Ezhuva applicant?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—I think there was.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Are not Ezhuvas sparsely represented in service?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—Yes, their turn was given. The very first candidate was an Ezhuva.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Is not the Nayar community a well represented community?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—It is not the intention of the Government to stop recruitment from Christians, Nayars and other communities. They can only give a preference to backward classes.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—If it was the intention of the Government to appoint a Nayar candidate, why did you call for applications for the post?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—That question was considered only after the receipt of the applications.

President.—Question time is over.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—On a point of order. About 40 questions remain to be answered. The time may be extended by the kindness of the President.

President.—I cannot extend the time.

Appointment of Inspectors of Police by direct recruitment.

524. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(a) whether they have fixed any proportion to regulate appointments as Inspector or Sub-Inspectors of Police by promotion from the Department and by direct recruitment;

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(b) the principles underlying the necessity for direct recruitment to these cadres ;

(c) why direct recruitment should be resorted to when there are qualified candidates in the department itself ?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—(a) No.

(b) and (c) No hard and fast rule is followed in the matter. Ordinarily a small percentage of the vacancies in the Station House Officer's grade will be filled up by promotion from the grade of Head Constables provided deserving subordinates with the required qualifications are available.

(c) Direct recruitment to the higher grades is necessary in the interests of efficiency. In all States, the practice exists. It is not a question whether qualifed hands exist or not, but whether the service could be more efficient by the introduction of new blood into the department by means of direct recruitment.

Newspaper article headed "Probationary Inspector".

525. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether their attention was drawn to the Editorial in the "Gomathi" dated 5th Kumbham 1108 under the heading 'Probationary Inspector';

(2) if so, what is the University degree of the candidate selected by the Commissioner of Police;

(3) how many subordinates are there in the Police Department at present holding the same degree ;

(4) has the selected candidate any qualification other than the University degree that entitles him to the selection ?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—(1) Yes.

(2) B.A.

(3) Ten.

(4) Yes ; he has completed the Law course and was the best of the lot in all respects.

Educational qualification for Inspectors of Police.

526. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) the minimum educational qualification prescribed for an Inspector of Police ;

(b) the number of men possessing this qualification on 8th Vrischigam 1103 ;

(1) among Head Constables, and

(2) among clerical staff of the department ?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—(a) B. A.

(b) (1) 4.

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